AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 9 with the following:

Data received by the PHYs 21 and 22 from the network medium 11 is passed along to a receive processing block 26. The receive processing block 26 may include well-known devices such as state machines and first-in first-out (FIFO) buffers, and may perform functions such as assembling and/or reformatting frames or packets of data received, performing error checks on the frames, compiling and appending data to the frames or packets, and stripping unnecessary bits from the received frames or packets. As explained in greater detail in co-owned U.S. Patent Application 09/776,195, [[_____,]] filed February 2, 2001 [[_____]] (Titled: "NETWORK NODE CAPABILITY DISCOVERY DEVICE, AND METHOD", Attorney Docket No.: E0900), incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, the receive processing block 26 may send data and/or information to a node discovery block 28, which may obtain, retain, and communicate node capability information and/or network topology information. The node discovery block 28 may include an electronically-readable storage device, such as a cache, for storing information regarding various nodes of the network, for example information regarding the capabilities of the nodes.